

Shipping.

STEAMERS.
OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON, VIA SUEZ CANAL.
THE Company's Steamship
 "DARDANUS."
 Captain Gregory, will be despatched as above
 TO-MORROW, the 19th inst., at Noon.
 For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
 Agents.
 Hongkong, 18th April, 1895.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY, LIMITED.
FOR SHANGHAI, VIA SWATOW.
(Taking Cargo and Passengers at through rate
for CHEFOO, TIENTSIN, NEWCHWANG,
HANKOW and PORTS on the YANGTSE.)
THE Company's Steamship
"CHOYSANG,"
Captain J. Young, will be despatched as above

TO-MORROW, the 19th instant, at 4 P.M.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers,
Hongkong, 17th April, 1895. [49]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY.

THE STEAMSHIP
"KWEIYANG,"
Captain Dawson, will be despatched TO-MOR-
ROW, the 10th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, 17th April 1895. (462)
INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY, LIMITED.
FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND
CALCUTTA.
THE Company's Steamship
"KUTSANG,"
 Captain G. Payne, will be despatched as above
 on **TUESDAY, the 23rd instant, at Noon.**
E. E. E.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 15th April, 1895. [459]

**CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,
LIMITED.**

**FOR PORT DARWIN, QUEENSLAND
PORTS, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.**

THE Company's Steamship

"CHINGTU."
R. Innes, Commander, will be despatched ~~on~~ **above** on **TUESDAY**, the 30th Instant, at 3 P.M.
The attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by this Steamer.
First-class Saloon is situated forward of the Engines. A Refrigerating Chamber ensures the

Supply of Fresh Provisions during the entire voyage.
A duly qualified Surgeon is carried and the Vessel is fitted throughout with Electric Light.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 17th April, 1895. 1495

THE 100 A. I. British Ship
"QUEEN MARGARET,"
 Faulkner, Master, will load here for the above
 Port, and will have quick despatch.
 For Freight apply to

Hongkong, 28th February, 1895. SHEWAN & Co. 1302

Consignees.
INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND
SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship
"KUTSANG"

Having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees
at Calcutta by her cargo, branches, etc., etc., etc.

Cargo impeding the discharge or remaining on board after 2 P.M. on the fifth instant will

No Fire Insurance will be effected.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

General Managers,
Hongkong, 16th April, 1895. 1455

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
FROM TRIESTE, VENICE, PORT SAID.

UEZ, JEDDAH, SUAKIM, MASSAWAH,
HOEDDA, ADEN, BOMBAY,
COLOMBO, PENANG AND SINGAPORE

THE Steamship

"MELPOMENE,"
Having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby
informed that their Goods, with the exception of

Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, — whence all

This vessel brings on Cargo :—
From Calcutta on 28th MARCH 1881

Shipped at Colombo. S.S. "AGLAIA,"
From Trieste, S.S. "IMPERATRIX,"

Optional Cargo will go on to Shanghai unless notice to the contrary be given before Noon TO-MORROW.

TOMORROW.
No Claims will be admitted after the Goods
have left the Godowns, and all Claims must be

sent in to the Undersigned before Noon on the 3rd instant, or they will not be recognised.
No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any

goods remaining in the Godowns after the 31st instant, will be subject to rent.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

SANDER & Co.,
Agents.

14-00000

the 1990s, the number of people in the United States who are 65 years of age or older is projected to increase from 20 million to 35 million, and the number of people 75 years of age or older is projected to increase from 10 million to 15 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996).

Today's Advertisements.
HONGKONG SKY RACES
 WILL BE HELD AT THE
 RACE COURSE
 ON
 SATURDAY NEXT, 20TH APRIL.
 First Saddle II will be rung at 1.30 P.M.
 sharp.

ADMISSION TO THE GRAND STAND AND ENCLOSURE, \$1.
 HART BUCK,
 Hon. Secretary.
 Hongkong, 18th April, 1895. [497]

HONGKONG SKY RACES.
 THE SKY MEETING COMMITTEE
 request the pleasure of the presence of
 the LADIES at the GRAND STAND and ENCLOSURE
 on SATURDAY next, 20th April.
 HART BUCK,
 Hon. Secretary.
 Hongkong, 18th April, 1895. [498]

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.
 SATURDAY, 20TH APRIL, 1895.
 AT 2.45 P.M.
 COMPETITION, PRACTICE FOR INTERPORT
 MATCH AND SPOONS; Ranges, 200,
 500 and 600 yards; Five Shots each Range
 with one sighting Shot. Entrance fee, 30 cents.

NOTICE.
 There will be a COMMITTEE MEETING
 held on the Range immediately after the Competition.

G. K. MOORE,
 Honorary Secretary,
 Hongkong, 18th April, 1895. [500]

"MOGUE" LINE OF STEAMERS.
 NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
 S. S. "ENERGIA,"
 FROM GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL AND
 STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed
 that all Goods are being landed at their
 risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong
 and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, at
 Kowloon, whence and/or from the wharves
 delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless
 notice to the contrary be given before Noon
 TODAY.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods
 have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining
 undelivered after the 25th instant, will be subject
 to sale.

All Claims against the Steamer must be
 presented to the Underwriter on or before the 25th
 instant, or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to
 be left in the Godowns, where they will be
 examined on the 25th instant, at 4 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.
 Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
 DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,
 Agents.
 Hongkong, 18th April, 1895. [478]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
 LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW.
 THE Company's Steamship

"HAITAN,"
 Captain Goldsaw, will be despatched for the
 above Ports TO-MORROW, the 19th instant, at
 Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
 DOUGLAS, LAURIA & Co.,
 General Managers.
 Hongkong, 18th April, 1895. [496]

"MOGUE" LINE OF STEAMERS.
 FOR SHANGHAI, KOBÉ AND YOKOHAMA.
 THE Steamship

"ENERGIA,"
 Captain Saw, will be despatched as above on
 SATURDAY, the 20th instant, at Noon, instead
 of as previously advertised.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
 DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,
 Agents.
 Hongkong, 18th April, 1895. [478]

"GLEN" LINE OF STEAM PACKETS.
 FOR LONDON, VIA SUEZ CANAL.
 THE Steamship

"GLEGARRY,"
 Captain Ferguson, will be despatched as above
 on WEDNESDAY, the 25th instant, at Noon.
 This Steamer has Superior Accommodation for
 Passengers, and carries a Doctor and Stewards.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
 JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
 Agents.
 Hongkong, 18th April, 1895. [446]

TO LET.
 "HIGHER" at MAGAZINE GAP.
 "DUNDEE" in ROBINSON ROAD
 (early furnished).
 Nos. 21 & 23, CAINE ROAD.
 No. 2, RIFON TERRACE.
 No. 3, VICTORIA VIEW, KOWLOON
 (furnished or unfurnished).
 DES VEOUX VILLAS AT THE PEAK.
 FLOORS IN BLUE BUILDINGS.
 FLOORS IN "ELGIN STREET, PEEL
 STREET AND STRATTON STREET."
 FLOORS IN No. 5, SHELLEY STREET.
 GODOWNS:
 BLUE BUILDINGS.
 No. 74, PRAYA CENTRAL.
 Apply to
 THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT
 & AGENCY CO., LTD.
 Hongkong, 18th April, 1895. [17]

Intimations.
DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK &
COMPANY, LIMITED.
VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

COLDS IN THE HEAD, &c.
 BURROUGHS WELLCOME & Co.'s
 PINOL EUCALYPTUS INHALERS.

ONE of the best remedies extant for Nasal
 Catarrh and all disorders of the Nasal
 Passages and Nasopharyngeal membranes.
 Price\$1.25.

EUCALYPTUS OIL.
 A STANDARD REMEDY FOR COLDS.
 Sprinkled on the handkerchief and over the
 breast of the night clothing it gives almost
 instant relief.
 Bottles\$1.00 and 50 Cents.

DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK & Co., Ltd.,
VICTORIA DISPENSARY.
 Hongkong, 19th January, 1895. [197]

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
 LIMITED.
 ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

ALL these are Selected by our London
 House, bought direct at first hand,
 imported in Wood and Bottled by ourselves,
 thus saving all intermediate profits and enabling
 us to supply the best growths at moderate
 prices.

PRICE LISTS, WITH FULL DETAILS, TO BE HAD
 ON APPLICATION.

PORT:—After removal should be rested a
 month before use. When required for
 drinking at once it should be ordered to be
 decanted at the Dispensary before being
 sent out.

SHERRY:—Excellent dinner and after dinner
 Wines, of very superior vintage. All are
 true Xeres Wines.

CLARET:—Our Claret, including the lowest
 priced, are guaranteed to be the genuine
 product of the juice of the grape and are not
 artificially made from raisins and currents,
 as is generally the case with Cheap Wines.

BRANDY:—All our Brandy is guaranteed to
 be pure Cognac, the difference in price
 being merely a question of age and vintage.

WHISKY:—All our Whisky is of excellent
 quality and of greater age than most brands
 in the market. The Scotch Whisky marked
 "E" is universally popular and is pro-
 mised by the best local connoisseurs to
 be superior to any other brand in the
 Hongkong Market.

We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to
 be genuine when bought direct from us in the
 Colony or from our authorised Agents at the
 Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.
 Hongkong, 9th January, 1895. [5]

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1895.

TELEGRAMS.
 (Special to Hongkong Telegraph.)

THE CHINA-JAPAN WAR.

PROLONGATION OF THE
ARMISTICE.

ENVOYS RETURN TO CHINA.

ENORMOUS CONCESSIONS TO
JAPAN.

IMPORTANT CONCESSIONS TO
INTERESTED POWERS.

SHANGHAI, April 18th.

The peace negotiations have been
 brought to a conclusion and Li Hung-
 chang and Staff left Shimonoseki for
 Tientsin yesterday.

The ratifications of the treaty must be
 exchanged within three weeks, and to
 allow time therefore the armistice has been
 prolonged till the 8th proximo.

The conditions of peace include the
 cession of Formosa and the Pescadores
 Group to Japan, as well as the Liaoting
 peninsula from Newchwang to the town of
 Anping (Aichu) on the Yalu River.

The indemnity has been fixed at
 200,000,000 millions of taels.

The treaty provides for the autonomy of
 Korea, several important concessions, not
 yet accurately known but undoubtedly
 very advantageous, the benefits of which
 will be shared by the Treaty Powers.

It is understood that the Japanese will
 hold no territory as a temporary guarantee
 of the good faith of China, except perhaps
 the island of Lukungtao, off Wei-hai-wel.

THE KAFIRISTAN EXPEDITION.
 LONDON, April 17th.

Capt. Peebles has been killed and Capt.
 O'Leary of the Devonshire Regiment wounded.
 Fowler and Umra Khan's remaining Sepoy
 captives have arrived at Sado.

THE ORIENTAL WAR.
 Peace has been signed. The Times Shanghai
 correspondent states that the terms are the
 independence of Korea, the retention by Japan
 of the conquered places, also of the territory
 east of the Liao River; the permanent cession
 of Formosa, the payment of a war indemnity of
 100,000,000 yen, and an offensive and defensive
 alliance between the two countries.

The Japanese Minister in London says that
 the statements of the Times are incorrect; that
 they omit several of the conditions of peace, and
 that the remainder are of doubtful accuracy.

DI-ASTROUS EARTHQUAKE.
 An earthquake has occurred in Italy and
 southern Austria, during which many houses
 collapsed and twenty lives were lost.

(Special to *Stam Observer*.)
THE UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE.
 LONDON, March 30th.

In the annual "Varsity" boat race Oxford beat
 Cambridge by two lengths.

ENGLAND IN EGYPT.
 LONDON, April 7th.

Lord Cromer, H. B. M. Agent and Consul
 General in Egypt, has issued his annual report

In the course of which he states that the
 Egyptian Ministers and the higher English
 Officials were working in cordial co-operation,
 and that he hoped there would be no untoward
 event to mar the present *amity*.

THE BRITISH VOLUNTEERS.
 Mr. William Woodall, Financial Secretary to
 the War Office, replying to a question in the
 House of Commons last night, said that the
 Government hoped to introduce after Easter a
 Bill which would enable the services of volunteers
 to be accepted in the event of a national
 emergency.

IRISH LEGISLATION.
 The Irish Land Bill was read a second time in
 the House of Commons last night without a
 division.

AN ALLIANCE IN HIGH LIFE.
 The engagement of Lord William Beresford
 to the Duchess of Marlborough is announced.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE.
 PARIS, April 7th.

In the Senate on Friday M. Hanotaux, Minister
 for Foreign Affairs, deprecated the statement
 made by Sir Edward Grey in the House of Com-
 mons as being calculated to endanger the success
 of the negotiations now pending between the
 two countries as to the question of aggression
 in Africa. He was confident that England
 and France would be capable of reconciling
 their respective interests; but, regarding the
 termination of the negotiations, France could
 not yet say.

The Royal Niger Co. France recognized, he
 further added, the claims of Turkey and Egypt
 to the Nile, and he had asked England to specify
 the exact limit of the sphere claimed to be
 under her influence, but had failed to obtain a
 reply. In the meanwhile France declined to
 acquiesce in the present situation, and reserved
 to herself full liberty of action. However, he
 still believed that the two nations, while respecting
 the rights of the Sultan and the Khedive,
 could reconcile their respective interests.

The Press, in commenting on the speech of
 M. Hanotaux, hopes that it will find an echo
 in England, the Government of which, by
 answering the precise questions, could solve the
 difficulty.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Russian cruiser *Gummaty* and the
 torpedo-boat *Swanberg* left here late yesterday
 afternoon for Yokohama, en route to Vladivostok.

The British cruiser *Severn* leaves for Singapore
 on Monday, where she will be relieved by the
Rafnosa, which passed through Suez Canal on the
 2nd inst.

The "At Home" at the Headquarters House
 this afternoon was attended by a large and
 fashionable gathering of the friends of General
 and Mrs. Barker.

We have received a poem, written by Miss
 Grace Hawthorne, whose talented and popular
 company will shortly arrive here. It will be
 published in an early issue.

A MARINE Court will be held at the Harbour
 Office to-morrow, at 10.30 a.m., to enquire into
 the circumstances connected with the grounding
 of the British steamship *Polyphemus* at Jubilee
 Island on the 8th inst.

We understand that the dinner of the Hong-
 kong Football Club to-morrow evening is likely
 to be a great success. Upwards of fifty guests
 will be present, including their Excellencies Sir
 William Robinson, Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir
 E. R. Fremantle, and Lieut.-General G. Digby
 Barker.

BROADWOOD PIANOS at W. Robinson & Co.

CAPTAIN Rumsy goes home shortly, leaving
 Captain Hastings as his *locum tenens*. The
 latter who will also shortly assume duty as
 Acting Captain Superintendent of Police,
vice Mr. F. H. May, who is about to proceed
 to the "suld country" on leave. Mr. T.
 Strcombe Smith will take his seat on the
 magisterial bench at early date *vice* Captain
 Hastings.

MEMO. FOR TO-MORROW.

8 a.m. English mail due with Major-General
 Black on board.

10 a.m. Summary Court.

10.30 a.m. Marine Court of Inquiry at Harbour
 Office.

3.30 p.m. Annual meeting of Chamber of
 Commerce.

5 p.m. Review of the troops and Volunteers at
 Happy Valley.

8 p.m. Hongkong Football Club dinner.

9 p.m. Meeting of Odd Volumes.

9 p.m. Complimentary Benefit Concert to Mr. C.
 T. Robinson.

COLLARD & COLLARD PIANOS at W. Robinson & Co.

MAJOR General Wilson Black, who is expected
 to arrive here by the English mail to-morrow
 to take over command from Lieut.-General Barker
 served with the 42nd Highlanders in the Crimea
 from 14th June, 1855, including the Siege and
 Fall of Sebastopol (Medal with Clasp and
 Turkish Medal). Served in the Kafir War 1878
 including the engagement at Taba-ka-Udda. Served
 also in the Zulu War of 1879, and com-
 manded the party which recovered the lost
 colours of the 24th Foot. For these services he
 received C.B., Medal and Clasp, and was men-
 tioned in despatches. Major-General Black
 lately commanded the troops in Jamaica.

At the Criminal Sessions this morning, before
 Mr. W. M. Goodman, Acting Chief Justice, and
 a jury (consisting of Messrs. F. Dodwell, R. A.
 Gabbay, T. P. Cottam, A. Sharp, H. W. Robert-
 son, J. Hand and G. M. Carvalhal) George Brown,
 Hans Abraham, J. Goydelowick and J. S. Land,
 seamen of the British barque *Zanaburga*, were
 charged with mutiny with intent to murder
 the Master, J. C. McDougall, and R. Otto
 steward, on board the *Zanaburga* in the harbour
 of Hilo on the 24th of March. Mr. A. G. Wise
 (Acting Attorney General) instructed by Mr.
 A. D. Johnson (Crown Solicitor), prosecuted, and
 the prisoners, who pleaded "not guilty," were
 undefended. The jury found prisoners guilty,
 and his lordship sentenced him (Geo. Brown) to
 (two) and second and third prisoners to one
 year's imprisonment each.

STERLING dropped 1/8th this afternoon.

We would direct the attention of our readers to
 the special telegram published in another
 column setting forth briefly the terms of peace
 signed by Li Hung-chang on behalf of the
 Emperor Kwang-su.

We are informed that the elected (unofficial)
 members of the Sanitary Board have decided to
 resign in consequence of the action of the
 Government in insisting on appointing a Health
 Officer of the port independently of the Board.

The lawn-tennis match played yesterday after-
 noon on the Public Recreation Ground between
 representatives of the Hongkong Cricket Club
 and the Ladies' Recreation Club attracted a
 large number of spectators, including H.E.
 the Governor and a number of ladies.

The Band of the Hongkong Regiment
 played a pleasing selection of music during the
 match. The result was H.K.C.C. 12 sets,
 Ladies' Recreation Club 4 sets. Two sets had
 to stand over owing to darkness setting in.

New Comic Song and Dance Albums at W.
 Robinson & Co.

LIEUT.-GENERAL Barker will review the
 whole of the troops in the Garrison
 and the Volunteers at the Happy Valley
 to-morrow afternoon at five o'clock. This will
 be the last official duty the General will per-
 form before his departure from the colony, and
 the event promises to be a very interesting one.

The Rifle Brigade, the Royal Artillery, the
 Royal Engineers, the Hongkong Regiment, and
 the Volunteers will assemble in full force on the
 occasion, and the sight of this immense gathering
 should not be missed. Major-General Black, who
 succeeds Lieutenant-General Barker, will arrive
 to-morrow by the English mail, possibly in time
 to be present at the parade.

IN the Queen's Bench Division of the High
 Court, before Mr. Justice Mathew, on March
 12th, an action was tried, "The Chartered Bank
 of India, Australia, and China v. P. MacLachlan
 and Co.," in which the plaintiffs sought to recover
 £2,360, the amount of six bills of exchange
 drawn upon the defendants, negotiated with
 the plaintiffs, and of which the defendants
 had refused acceptance. The defendants
 had granted to Messrs. Knowles and Co.,
 merchants in Batavia, a letter of credit, on the
 strength of which the plaintiff bank had dis-
 counted the bills in question; but it was
 admitted that goods had not been bought and
 paid for by Knowles and Co., to be shipped
 against the bills. The contention on behalf of
 the plaintiffs was that they were entitled to
 assume that Knowles and Co. were acting
 within the terms of the letter of credit, but for
 the defendants this was denied, and his lordship
 held that the defendants were entitled to refuse
 acceptance of the bills.

New piano repairing machinery, received by
 W. Robinson & Co.

REFERRING to the reports current here as to the
 existence of plague at Macao in epidemic form,
 the *Echo Macanense* of yesterday says:—In
 spite of the alarming news published in the
 Hongkong papers relative to the sanitary con-
 dition of Macao, the health of the community
 continues to be good. There have been a few
 sporadic cases of plague among the Chinese
 who have come here from Canton, Pakhoi and
 Hongkong, but there is no epidemic observable
 in any particular locality in the city; neither
 in the military hospital of Saint Raphael nor in
 the civil hospital of Saint Raphael are there any
 patients suffering from plague. At the present
 time there are in the Chinese hospital four con-
 valescents and a few patients under observation.
 There is no verification of the report that in the
 Chinese portion of the city whole families have
 been attacked by plague, nor have a number of
 persons been laid low with it at the same time,
 nor even many residing in the same street.
 There is, therefore, no appearance of an epidemic
 here. Notwithstanding this fact, however, the
 authorities, as a precautionary measure, have
 doubled the number of men employed in
 scavenging and disinfecting the city.

A PARTIAL indication of a revival of trade in
 a country or district is found, usually, in the
 starting of new mercantile enterprises and the
 growth of new and old companies. As every one
 knows only too well, this colony has suffered in
 recent years from the effects of a 'dun' though
 not altogether unexpected, collapse in local stocks
 and the signs of a revival have been anxiously
 looked for ever since. It therefore affords us
 much pleasure to chronicle a marked improve-
 ment in many local stocks, notably in the home
 and local value of Hongkong and Shanghai
 Bank scrip, and in the rise and satisfactory
 progress made by Bell's Asbestos Eastern
 Agency, Limited—the latest addition to our
 Share List. Commercial news received by the
 last mail shows that at the general meeting
 of shareholders of Bell's Asbestos Eastern
 Agency, held in London on the 7th ultimo,
 the report stated that the net profit
 on the past year's working was close on £30,000
 on a Capital of £200,000; that the business is
 expanding rapidly, and that though quite a young
 concern it has £50,000 placed to reserve, not-
 withstanding 72 per cent. had been paid in
 dividend during the period under review. Such
 results as these achieved by the parent
 concern certainly augur well for the future of
 subsidiary Company whose scrip is, we note,
 steadily advancing in public favour.

FULL stock of banjos, mandolines, guitars,
 accordions, strings and fittings of all kinds at
 W. Robinson & Co.

THE pretty crop of last year, says an Indian
 correspondent, having been the worst on record,
 the amount of Government opium to be sold in
 1895 is only 37,250 chests. As the opium
 reserve is exhausted, the Government have
 arranged to purchase crude opium in Malwa for
 manufacture into excise opium, so as to set free
 as much as possible of the produce of the
 agencies for manufacture for export. Unless
 more than 35,000 chests are manufactured out
 of the agency produce, the Government will not
 sell more than 45,000 chests in 1895.

By the courtesy of Major the Hon. G. Noel
 and Officers, the Band of the Rifle Brigade will
 play at the Sky Race Meeting on Saturday, the
 20th instant.

W. ROBINSON & Co., piano builders, tuners and
 repairers.

At the Magistracy to-day Mr. Wodehouse con-
 tinued the enquiry into the circumstances of the
 recent fire at 212, Queen's Road West. After
 the evidence of Inspector Mackle, Messrs. W. E.
 Crowe (Government Analyst) and J. A. Plummer
 (Messrs. Bradley and Co.) had been led, the
 enquiry was further adjourned till to-morrow
 at 10 a.m. Mr. H. J. Goerge (of Messrs.
 Johnson, Stokes and Master's office) appeared for
 the Meiji Fire Insurance Co., of which the
 Mitsui Bussan Kaisha are the local agents, and
 Mr. J. F. Reece appeared on behalf of the Poon
 Fong Ting Lum shop.

THE Inland Revenue Department, says *The World*,
 have lost a smart and popular quadron leader
 in the late Lieut.-Col. Pennefather, who has
 accepted the Inspector-General's office of Police
 in the Straits Settlements. It seems rather
 a pity, when so many officers are seconded
 for Colonial employment, that no effort should
 have been made to retain the services of
 an officer of Colonel Pennefather's experience
 and reputation. The work he did in South
 Africa stamped him as a man of vigour and
 resource, but he has been allowed to drift on to
 the Retired List, while officers with no such
 claims as his are specially retained. The
 application of Royal Warrants can be very
 plastic indeed when it is desired that they should
 be made so, but where Service interests are
 concerned the terms and conditions are, it would
 seem, rigidly enforced, at least that is so judging
 by recent experience.

MESSRS. W. M. G. HALE & Co., in their circular
 dated 14th April, say:—RICE: Our
 market has undergone continual fluctuations
 since the date of last advice, but there is not
 much difference to note at the close; arrivals
 are plentiful enough, but the greater portion of
 the cargo is cleared off, we may expect to
 see easier prices for a time, until some fresh
 delivery springs up. We quote, for May/June
 delivery:—No. 1 white milled, \$1.88; No.
 white milled, \$2.35; 10 per cent. cargo milled,
 \$1.97; 20 per cent. cargo milled, \$1.92 per cwt.,
 nett l.b. Invoice weight in gunnies, without
 insurance. THE FREIGHT MARKET: During
 the earlier part under review, tonnage has been
 fairly in demand, and we have seen as high as
 24 cents to Hongkong for small crafts, but
 almost unexpectedly, the scarcity of money at
 Banks having restricted advances to Chinese
 shippers, business had been affected in conse-
 quence. Rates after having dragged indifferently
 for a while have recovered at the close. The
 following are to-day's quotations:—Hongkong
 20 cents, Singapore 8 cents, Java (one pbn) 28
 cents. For the Philippines and Japan no
 enquiry.

"THE MAGISTRATE" AT THE
CITY HALL.

The Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club gave
 a most successful representation of A. W.
 Pinero's screaming farce "The Magistrate" at
 the City Hall last night, before a fairly large
 and very appreciative audience. The production
 from beginning to end went with a swing
 that is not often witnessed in amateur per-
 formances, and the audience was kept in a
 simmer of laughter until the fall of the curtain
 on the last act. The farce was produced here
 some two years ago, with great success, by the
 London Lyric Company, and although in
 most cases comparisons are invidious, yet the
 performance of the amateurs last night compares
 not unfavorably with that of their professional
 confreres.

"The Magistrate" is a farce pure and simple
 and was originally produced at the Court
 Theatre, London, in March, 1885, under the
 management of the late John Clayton and
 Arthur Cecil. Although 'toured' with immense
 success in various countries, and claimed by
 dramatic critics to be, next to "Sweet Lavender,"
 the best of all Pinero's works, it quite fails to
 recognize any claim to the title of "original."
 Undoubtedly a bright and well-written
 sketch and admirably worked up for stage
 representation, "The Magistrate" is nevertheless
 a mere hash-up of the pungent wit of W. S.
 Gilbert in the Bab Ballads and the famous
 comic operas with which his name is so closely
 associated, and plagiarism on the leading situa-
 tions in "Pink Dominoes," a sparkling farcical
 comedy of the French school with which Charles
 Wyndham made a tremendous hit at the London
 Criterion over so many years ago. But admitting
 all this, "The Magistrate" is a smart specimen
 of the playwright's art; it abounds in witty
 (and at times amusingly suggestive) dialogue,
 and the leading situations are surprisingly
 effective. There is nothing either original or
 striking in

Sec., Sec., Sec.

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